

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A catheter assembly comprising a container and at least one catheter element with a proximal end adapted for insertion in a urinary canal and an opposite distal end, the container comprising a cavity adapted to accommodate at least a proximal section of said catheter element, said catheter assembly further comprising a catheter handle adapted to be interlocked with the catheter element, the handle comprising a sleeve section adapted to surround a portion of said container characterized in that said catheter handle is adapted to be separated from said catheter element and from said container.

Claim 2 (original): A catheter assembly according to claim 1, wherein said catheter handle is adapted to be attached to said container assembly.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said catheter handle is shorter than said container or shorter than said catheter element.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein a distal section of said catheter element has at least one protruding part and wherein a proximal compartment of said cavity is adapted to accommodate a proximal section of said catheter, said proximal compartment having a distal opening zone with exclusion means adapted to exclude said distal section of said catheter element from entering said proximal compartment.

Claim 5 (original): A catheter assembly according to claim 4, wherein said exclusion means comprises a radially inwardly

extending protrusion in the cavity.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~, wherein at least a part of said distal opening zone is flexible.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, further comprising a lubricating medium.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein at least a portion of said catheter element has a hydrophilic coating.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A catheter assembly according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein said container comprises sealing means for sealing said cavity.

Claim 10 (original): A method for preparing a catheter device, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a catheter assembly comprising a container assembly, said container assembly comprising a catheter element, which has a proximal end adapted for insertion in a urinary canal and an opposite distal end, the container assembly further comprising a container with a cavity adapted to accommodate at least a proximal section of said catheter element and a catheter handle comprising a sleeve section adapted to surround a portion of said container,
- b) detaching the catheter handle from the container assembly,
- c) connecting the catheter handle to the catheter element,
- d) removing the catheter element from the container.